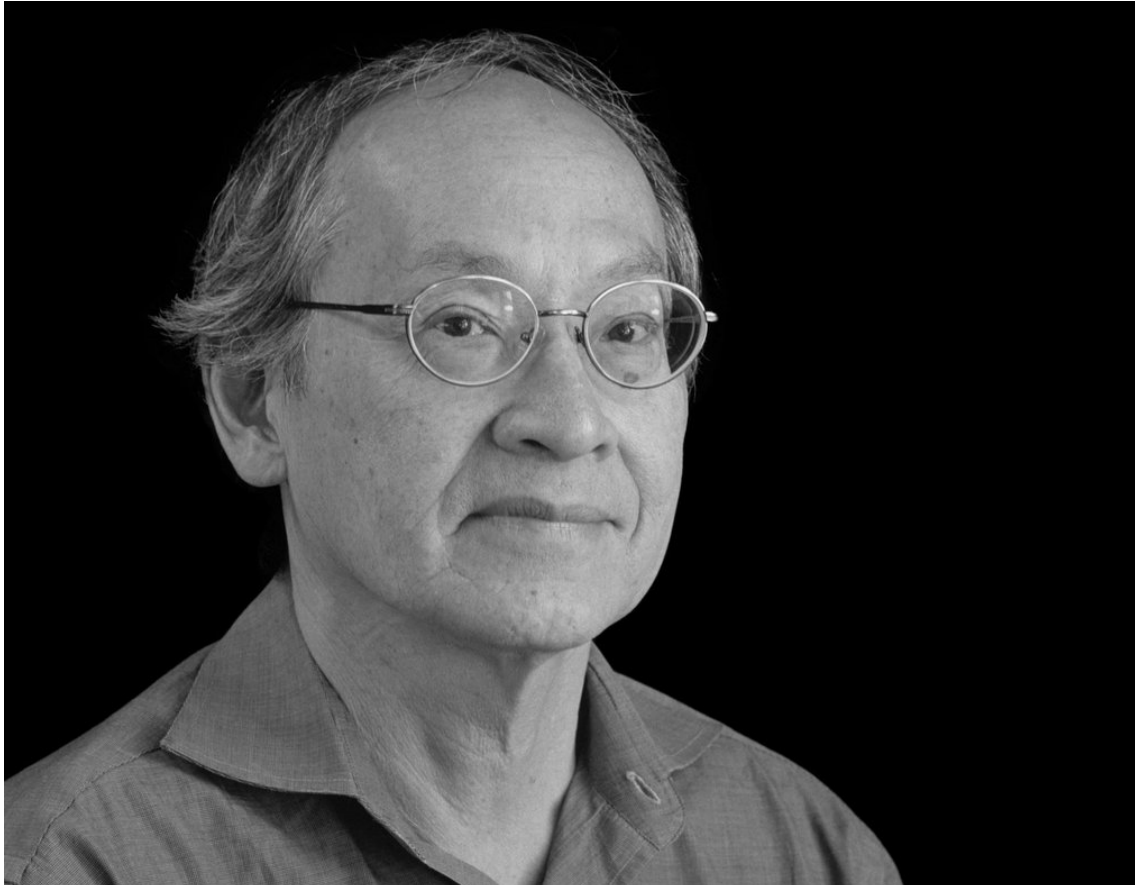


## Arthur Sze '68 Named National Book Award Finalist



Sze visited the School last year in January, leading select English sections, performing a poetry reading, and working with individual students to workshop their poems.

Courtesy of the National Book Foundation

ASHLEY LEE '21  
& TIFFANY YEUNG '22  
STAFF WRITERS

Lawrenceville Alumnus Arthur Sze '68 was selected as a finalist for the 2019 National Book Award in the poetry category this past Tuesday. His book *Sight Lines* placed in the top five of approximately 150 poetry book entries. According to the National Book Foundation website, *Sight Lines* "moves through space and time and brings the disparate and divergent into stunning and meaningful focus."

The National Book Award is widely considered as one of the most prestigious literary prizes in the nation and is given by the National Book Foundation to recognize stellar literary works. The awards annually recognizes the best Fiction, Nonfiction, Poetry, Translated Literature, and Young People's Literature. Sze described the award as "the Academy Awards of literature."

The Foundation assembles a panel of five judges for each category who have expertise in that category. The judges consist of former National Book Award winners, finalists, and judges who are recruited by the National Book Foundation's Executive Director.

Each panel is able to create its own criteria for the National Book Award, and the panel changes every year. Annually, each panel reads the books submitted to its category over

the summer. It then creates a list of 10 entries that is announced in mid-September; this year, Sze's *Sight Lines* qualified for a Longlist Poetry title. From there, the panel narrows the search down to five finalists. The winner for each category is ultimately announced in November.

On his initial sentiments upon hearing that the National Book Foundation nominated his book for the award, Sze said, "While I was excited and pleased, I was also cautious." He added, "Let's just see what happens."

Sze is the author of 10 poetry books and a Professor Emeritus at the Institute of American Indian Arts. He has also earned an array of scholarships and awards, including the Lannan Literary Award, the American Book Award, the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Writer's Award, and the Western States Book Award for Translation. One of his previous books, *Compass Rose*, was one of three finalist works for the Pulitzer Prize in 2015.

Sze wrote the poem entitled "Sight Lines" within the greater book because he was commissioned by the University of Virginia to write a poem about Thomas Jefferson. Reflecting on his work, Sze said, "I was happy with how that poem came out because... it allow[ed] me to explore Jefferson, [and] I learned that sight lines move through space in time. The sight lines don't tell one narrative but a collage [of narratives]." Sze then decided to have the poem "Sight Lines" as

the organizing principle that runs through the poetry book.

Prior to his attending Lawrenceville, Sze did not find himself inclined towards poetry. During his time at the School, he experienced pressure from his parents to study in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields. However, during his last semester at Lawrenceville, Sze took a class titled Contemporary American Poetry. On the impact of this course on his career, Sze said, "In some ways, the seeds were planted there."

His joy for writing poems further developed during his years as an undergraduate at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). He recalled that during a calculus lecture at MIT, he opened up a blank sheet of paper and began writing as a result of boredom. "I think basically everyone was surprised when I started to write poetry," Sze said.

After deciding to leave MIT, Sze further pursued his interest in poetry at the University of California, Berkeley (UCB). He created his own major at UCB and majored in poetry.

Sze's advice to students on improving their poetry writing skills is to "enjoy playing with different languages, sounds, images, and rhythms and feel the excitement of discovery," Sze said.

The recipients of the National Book Award will be announced on November 20, 2019.

## Students Selected as National Hispanic Scholars

LINA OLAZABAL '22  
STAFF WRITER

Last weekend, Santi Parra-Vargas '20 and Victoria Scholtz '20 received news that they had won the National Hispanic Recognition Program (NHRP) scholarship, awarded by the College Board and organized by Scholarship America. Approximately 5,000 awardees were selected across the nation for the program, scoring among the top 2.5 percent of Hispanic and Latinx students who took the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) in the Middle States region. Scholtz and Parra-Vargas were notified that their PSAT scores qualified for the program in February of their IV Form year. With the help of Dean of Academics and Science Master David Laws P'21 '23, they submitted their application in early July of 2019.

To qualify for the award, students must take the PSAT in their junior year, achieve the minimum test score for their region, and earn a GPA of 3.5 or higher by the middle of their junior year. This year's cutoff for the Middle States region was a score of 1320. Additionally, all applicants must be at least one-quarter Hispanic or Latinx and originally descend from relatives of at least one of the following nations: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Belize, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Puerto Rico, Spain, Uruguay, or Venezuela. For clarification on eligibility, the College Board explicitly notes on the program website, "Hispanic and Latino are ethnic categories, not racial categories, and Hispanic/Latino students may be of any race."

While the NHRP does not directly offer scholarships, those selected have access to various oppor-

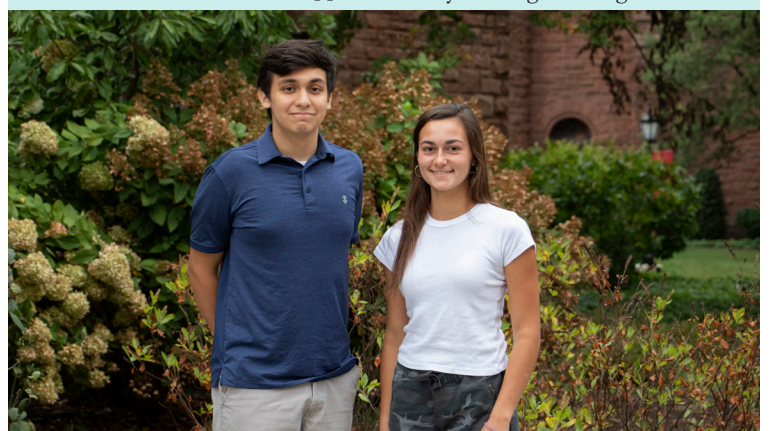
tunities during the college process. As Parra-Vargas noted, the NHRP "helps you get a lot of consideration [from] the National Hispanic College Fund for scholarships for the top percent of Latino students."

Director of College Counseling Jeffrey Durso-Finley P'13 '14 '19 '22 said that students "can use the designation as an honor to list on their college applications, with some colleges and universities using it as a qualification to receive institutional financial aid scholarships or to enter scholarship competitions at the college or university." For instance, Boston University (BU) considers recognized students "who have exceptionally strong academic records" for its four-year \$25,000 Presidential Scholarship, according to the BU website. Recipients for the Presidential Scholarship are ultimately selected by Boston University's Board of Admissions and Scholarship Committee.

Reflecting on the award, Parra-Vargas said, "Essentially, it's just a program that allows students like me from countries in South America... to be recognized for their achievements." He added, "Some South American countries are super poor, so to have somebody from that country do well on the PSAT is really good for them."

On his reaction upon receiving the award, Parra-Vargas said, "I didn't know I was going to get it because I thought New Jersey has a lot of Latino people... I thought it would be pretty difficult, and I feel really happy that I ended up getting it."

On her experience regarding the application process for the NHRP, Scholtz said, "I thought it was pretty cool that there is an award that celebrates that kind of accomplishment for Hispanic students. So I'm pretty proud of that. I was really grateful to receive this recognition... because of the opportunities that you can get through it."



Students recognized as National Hispanic Scholars by the College Board.

Courtesy of The Lawrenceville School

## Setting the Record Straight

Thacher Smith '20 examines the uncertainty in the Trump impeachment process.



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## New Harkness Travel Trips

Christine Cheng '21, Lina Olazabal '22, and Carina Li '22 provide an overview of the new Harkness Travel Programs for spring and summer.



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## Boys Water Polo Defeats Malvern Prep in Nail-Biter

Grayson Miller '21 recaps Big Red boys varsity water polo's narrow win over Malvern Prep.



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# THE LAWRENCE

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## CORRECTIONS

Readers who notice errors should contact the Managing Editor at sannamaneni20@lawrenceville.org.

### POTW: Tour de Force at Big Red Under the Lights



# Editorial

## Standing by Our Principles

This past week a member of the National Basketball Association (NBA), Daryl Morey, tweeted out a graphic stating, "Fight For Freedom Stand with Hong Kong." A post of only seven words, the tweet received massive backlash and tore a chasm in the NBA's relationship with China. After its posting, the Chinese Consulate expressed its "strong dissatisfaction" and multiple big-name Chinese companies severed ties with the Houston Rockets and the NBA as a whole which ended lucrative endorsements and financial deals. In the face of this backlash, some members of the NBA have attempted to salvage billions of dollars in potential revenue by criticizing Morey's expression of opinion. The NBA Commissioner Adam Silver has stood by Morey and his principles; "the NBA will not put itself in a position of regulating what...employees ... say on these issues ... We will protect our employees' freedom of speech."

The NBA's controversy highlights an issue relevant to all of us in an age of information and hyper-partisanship: Maintain a controversial stance on principle or give in to the popular views of your peers. Here at Lawrenceville, while we may often envision a community of individuals in tacit agreement, it's important that we maintain a willingness to stand by our views, however controversial, as a prerequisite for diverse discussion.

A key downside of choosing the perspective of least resistance is the illusion of learning, hurting our understanding of our own assumptions. Arguing a point that you do not truly support (and only chose because of appealing factors such as ease of argument) may produce short-term benefits that draw

students' attention. But this creates an illusion of learning because in casting aside their honest thinking, students prevent their thought processes from undergoing rigorous questioning, a critical element of our personal development. While we may choose a more acceptable opinion at the Harkness table, in our essays, or simply in conversation, the value in arguing for a point that you do not stand for vanishes the moment the parameters of classroom assignments are removed.

Beyond the classroom, our opinions and arguments are not geared for the sake of earning acceptance but rather a judgement upon which we act. Thus, we should use essays and discussions as opportunities to develop independent thinking rather than favor short-term convenience.

In standing by our principles, whether inside or outside an academic environment, we place our assumptions through a necessary level of questioning. If many students stand up for their perspectives, the ensuing debates and conversations can prove to be incredibly valuable. By listening to different opinions, we are forced to re-evaluate aspects of our own argument, such as the validity of assumptions and evidence involved. Even if we do not ultimately change our perspective on the issue, we develop the habit of having a healthy level of skepticism while considering a counter-argument, both of which develop a deeper understanding of the topic itself. Failing to stand up for our beliefs, we are not fully able to re-assess our opinions while listening to other perspectives, ultimately leading to weaker comprehension.

Lawrenceville boasts the benefits of a diverse community. While the

wide-ranging racial makeup stands out, a more important form of diversity is contrast in thought, emphasizing a variety of strong ideas formed independently. Living at Lawrenceville entails opening our minds to different perspectives around us, but as we strive to learn and listen, the dangers of falling into a uniform mold increase. The end goal of having people with diverging backgrounds come together at Lawrenceville to promote greater perspectives, and it can be easy to go along with the beliefs of those around us, slowly narrowing the overall perspective of the student body. It isn't that we should deny any ideas that stand against our own, but holding strong to what we believe in furthers the value of our pool of perspectives. While it is beneficial to learn from our peers, it is vital that we grow into an extension of our personal ideals, rather than a collection of public opinions. Despite the constant calling for people to listen and learn, our viewpoints lose significance if we conform to what our peers believe.

Standing by our principles does not suggest that we reject all contradicting ideas, but a certain degree of persistence helps create an environment where the community as a whole can benefit from strong and unique perspectives. As Lawrentians, we advertise diversity and Harkness learning, but being enveloped in this rich community should not come at the expense of our voice, and rather than passively agreeing, we should maintain our personal principles.

*This editorial represents a majority view of The Lawrence, Vol CXXXIX*

# Setting the Record Straight

## Understanding the Uncertainty of Impeachment in the Trump Administration

THACHER SMITH '20  
SENIOR COLUMNIST

Even for those who choose not to follow politics, it's been almost impossible to ignore the topic of impeachment, which has dominated headlines and the public discourse over the past few weeks. With conversation centered so heavily around President Trump, the impeachment process has taken a backseat to discussion and debate over the validity of the allegations brought against the president. Considering the rarity and complexity of impeachment, most

*"Amidst the partisan fervor surrounding these new charges, many have been quick to conclude an early end to this administration"*

Americans lacking intimate knowledge of the constitution only have a broad idea of the impeachment process and its implications. However, amidst the partisan fervor surrounding these new charges, many have been quick to conclude an early end to this administration. Instead, it's important to understand the constitutional process of removing an elect-

ed official from office, and to recognize its inherent uncertainty.

Stepping back to the present, as of publication, an impeachment of Donald Trump is only in its infancy. On September 24th, under the leadership of Speaker Nancy Pelosi, the House of Representatives opened an impeachment inquiry into the president based on a series of allegations stemming from a phone call with the president of Ukraine in July 2019. While many have misconstrued this first step as a formal decision to impeach the president, an inquiry serves only as the first step in a series of processes which may or may not result in the removal of a president from office. The purpose of an inquiry is merely to allow members of the house to gather the necessary information to make an informed decision as to whether or not to proceed with the impeachment process. Within this inquiry stage, representatives are able to obtain pertinent evidence in the form of documents and sworn testimony. While under ideal circumstances this evidence would be provided willingly, the open hostility of the White House towards the current investigation has forced the house to subpoena the necessary documents, essentially ordering involved parties to provide

the requested evidence or face serious legal consequences.

Upon the conclusion of this stage, the House will weigh the evidence it has collected and vote either to impeach the president or to conclude the impeachment inquiry without taking further action. While the constitution provides

a firm outline governing the process for impeachment, the vagueness of the grounds for which an official shall be impeached makes impeachment a far less explicit and clear-cut process than many Americans consider it to be. The constitution dictates that an individual should be impeached if they have

committed "Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors." While treason and bribery are clearly defined legal terms, the framers failed to define the last term, "high Crimes and Misdemeanors," leaving the nature of this final kind of offense open to interpretation. Given that President Trump's current alleged offenses are not being considered under the first two categories, in all likelihood, the impeachment of the president will come down to whether or not his actions fell under this third category of impeachable offenses.

Perhaps the most common misconception surrounding the impeachment process is its potential outcomes. While impeachment is a necessary step in removing the president from office, this will not necessarily occur, even if the house votes to impeach the president in the coming weeks. As mentioned previously, two American presidents have been impeached, but no president has been removed from office.

While these two men were impeached in the House, they were acquitted in their trials conducted by the Senate, the final step in removing a president

*"While impeachment is a necessary step in removing the president from office, this will not necessarily occur, even if the house votes to impeach the president in the coming weeks."*

from office. While the framers of the constitution hoped to avoid partisan bias influencing impeachment, with current support for the process split along party lines, in all likelihood, the Democratic majority in the House will vote to impeach the president while the Republican majority in the Senate will vote to acquit him of all alleged wrongdoings, ensuring he remains in office for the rest of his term. However, as new evidence in the investigation comes to light every day, only time will tell if Donald Trump's days in office are numbered in proceedings that will serve as an ultimate test of the constitution and have a resounding impact on the future of American politics.



Jeffrey Tao '20/THE LAWRENCE



# Behind the Facade of Violence

## Media and the Untold Stories of the Hong Kong Protests

ALISTAIR LAM’23

This past week media outlets reported that a Hong Kong police officer shot an 11th grade student with a live bullet. This use of lethal force marks a change in tone in Hong Kong’s four months of escalating violence. As a Hong Kong citizen myself, I’m troubled by what I see on the news. Each new headline brings increased tension in the protests, and from an outside perspective, it would seem that Hong Kong is in a state of anarchy, with reports of police brutality, vandalism of public property, and now this shooting. However, I can’t help but see a striking dichotomy between the reality at home, and the reality portrayed by the headlines. At the same time, differing perspectives often draw from differing

*I can’t help but see a striking dichotomy between the reality at home and the reality on the news*

news sources. For an unbiased third party seeking to understand the Hong Kong protests, it’s important to recognize the role of media and its selectivity in highlighting some

aspects of the protests, while leaving others out.

The different media often portrays each event differently, selectively choosing evidence from the same event and drawing conclusions that do not represent incidents as a whole. Even in the incident of the police officer shooting the 11th grade student, each media outlet construed the event differently. After the incident, pro-protest media alleged that the police officer quickly deserted the protester, leaving the student without medical attention. Many protestors claimed it showed the disheartening reality of police brutality. At the same time, anti-protest news sources rejected this interpretation and stated that the police officer had to desert the wounded protester to escape the violent mob, and in fact, the incident had occurred in defense of a colleague. The difference is seen when analyzing a full-length video of the incident, where segments featured on each respective media

outlet’s websites are noticeably cut to portray each side more favorably. This becomes concerning for a third party, an unbiased reader who is ultimately swayed depending on their news source. While media bias is present in all forms of journalism, in an issue as contentious as Hong Kong, the schism between the headline and reality only grows.



Jasper Zhu '21/THE LAWRENCE

Amidst a topic as contentious as Hong Kong’s protests, the nature of violence is often inflated by the radical views of a small minority. Media sources often report news that offer a change in the narrative, moments that can grab interest. So while millions of protestors continue to occupy the streets, such a passive form of protest quickly grows old in the eyes of media outlets. Instead,

more radical, new moments, such as the cutting down of surveillance poles, replace the old on the front page. From a third person’s perspective, there is often no context to see the prevalence of a certain act. Each article holds the same weight. Thus, while millions gather in the streets, a small minority of less than a hundred is featured on the news.

This bias, also, is inherent to forms of media with a large audience. However, it is important to recognize the validity of news intended to grab the readers’ attention, the depiction of sensationalist moments: protestors lighting a fire and throwing petrol bombs and bricks at police officers. As the media only underscores the many violent acts performed by a small group of protestors and not the people as a whole, one must not forget that the protests also involve millions of citizens who gather in the streets for peaceful marches.

Taking a step back from the chaotic protest scenes and looking at the government and the people as a whole, the partisanship in media reporting has driven the split between the people and the government. All

throughout the protests, the government and protestors are totally unwilling to listen to one another, with the government calling for violence to stop and the people rallying for the five demands. There are even two separate daily press briefings: one

*While millions gather in the streets, a small minority is featured in the news*

by the government and police force and the other by the protestors! Despite the government claiming it has started conversations with its citizens, it is obvious that the two sides have not initiated actual and meaningful communication to ease the tensions. What results is a greater rift in the media’s portrayal of events, influenced by a set of two simultaneous narratives from which one is ultimately chosen. For a third party, this is the final facet to understand.

In short, if one is seeking to truly understand the nature of the Hong Kong protests, one should stop to consider the differing views in the media. Information in any second-hand form is arguably biased to some degree. However, in an issue as contentious as Hong Kong, the schism between the front page and reality only grows.

# Green Eggs and Ham

## Understanding the Meat Industry and Changing Our Diet

CHERIE FERNANDEZ’21

Most of us don’t genuinely question a meat-rich diet, even amid inquiries about the morality of it all and summons to a vlog-worthy lifestyle. Given how accustomed we are to eating meat regularly, it becomes easy to cite “the circle of life” and dig in; however, this outlook neglects to put history into perspective. Yes, humans have been omnivorous for 2.5 million years, but not to the extent that a plate without an animal product on it wouldn’t be considered a proper meal. In fact, only a few decades ago, a meat dinner was a rare delicacy. Additionally, while this is less present at Lawrenceville, there’s often a general cultural perception of the more vocal vegetarians and vegans as preachy--just check out any vegan youtube channel. But hey, if I were saving the world one tofu sandwich at a time, I’d talk about it too--because vegetarians and vegans are in the right, even if the rest of us haven’t seen it yet.

From a utilitarian perspective, using meat to feed earth’s population is horrifically wasteful and unsustainable. Globally, meat production accounts for over 80 percent of the earth’s farmland and over a fourth of our total freshwater consumption, a massive amount of resources that isn’t proportionate to the quantity of food we extract; per 1kg of steak produced, a cow consumes up to 25kg of grain and uses up to 15,000L of water. If we simply used those resources

to feed ourselves, we’d have enough left over to nourish an additional 3.5 billion people. Meat production is also a significant contributor to climate change, responsible for 15% of all human greenhouse gas emissions--as much as all cars, ships, planes, and trains combined. Thus, several scientists and climate organizations, the IPCC most recently, have urged the public to adopt plant-based diets.

And that isn’t even considering animal rights--humans kill 200 million animals a day, the majority of which are bred in factory farms that feature atrocious quality of life for animals on the product line. This isn’t the same thing as hunting animals in wild or even maintaining a farm. Industrial farming is dairy cows and sows forced to breed continuously only to be forcibly separated from their young; pigs raised in massive, windowless sheds; feedlots that have beef cows simply eat continually without being let out to expend calories; animals kept pens and cages impossible to so much as turn around in; chickens packed so tightly together that their beaks have to be cut off to prevent fighting; male chicks, deemed useless to production, gassed and shredded; and several other horrors. The price we pay for cheap meat is mass animal cruelty to fuel an uncompromis-

ing industrial system. I’m not going to equate this to killing a human, but I don’t think we can justify it for our dietary convenience if it’s not a necessity, and as established, it isn’t. The realities of factory farming are not the circle of life, and we need to acknowledge that--in fact, I’m sure future generations will be aghast at how common this practice was, much in the way we can’t understand how it was once normal to enslave other human for personal convenience.

It doesn’t feel great to know that when I make that quick purchase at Chick-fil-A, I’m

enous after a game, I’m indirectly promoting all of the above. But is that going to stop me from ordering a spicy chicken sandwich instead of

a salad? Probably not. Many people, Lawrentians included, live fast-paced lives that make it nigh impossible to adhere to strict diets if it’s not a medical or religious necessity--and people who do manage it have all my respect. However, I recognize that we’re not just going to suddenly experience a collective change of heart and go no meat products cold-turkey. The alternative could be to let ourselves get tricked into it, much in the way subsidized renewable energy initiatives have people switching to solar; we wait until scientists do the work for us and begin making meat substitutes like the Impossible Burger readily available so we can satisfy our meat cravings without guilt. However, we can also take control of our own habits by consciously minimizing meat consumption in our diets. I propose a “Meatless Monday” initiative-- asking students to commit to a meat free diet one day of the week. It’s not perfect, but it would still make a significant difference if the whole school managed it, or even if one person sustained the habit for several years.

If not for moral reasons, there are also several health benefits to a more vegetable-based diet. Processed meat, which includes bacon, hotdogs, and most of the options we see in the deli bar, are strongly linked to cancer according to the WHO, with processed meat now classified among the group 1 carcinogens, right alongside asbestos and plutonium exposure and smoking. They may also significantly in-

crease the chance of suffering from strokes, diabetes, and heart disease later in life. Most public health agencies recommend cutting down meat consumption to 500g a week and cutting processed meat as much as possible, which is far from the 1600g that Americans average. And athletes aren’t exempt--not only are The American College of Sports Medi-

*Most of us don’t genuinely question a meat-rich diet, even amid inquiries about the morality and summons to a vlog-worthy lifestyle*

cine and the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics in agreement that a vegetarian or vegan diet can provide adequate nutrients to support an athlete, but elite athletes are increasingly opting for plant-based diets, and one day a week of no meat (it could even be Sunday) or a general reduction in meat products (swapping out a meat-based “refueling food” for something high carb) will not negatively impact an athlete’s performance.

Thus, advocates of plant diets are right, no two ways about it--meat production is unsustainable and industrial farming is not OK. But instead of shrugging our shoulders and carrying on with our day, we can consciously change our own habits, improving both ourselves and the world just a little bit.



Bryan Hernandez'20/THE LAWRENCE



# 2019-2020 New Harkness Travel Programs Announced



The Harkness Travel Trip to the Himalayas in Nepal will return this year after its pilot two years ago.

Courtesy of The Lawrenceville School

**CHRISTINE CHENG '21,  
LINA OLAZABAL '22,  
& CARINA LI '22**  
STAFF WRITERS

As announced in school meeting this past Thursday, the Experimental Leadership Department is introducing six new Harkness Travel trips in both the spring and summer breaks. These trips are Bali, Indonesia; Nepal; Appalachia, West Virginia; Jerusalem; Iceland; and Guatemala. On the purpose of the Harkness Travel Trips, Director of Experiential Education John Hughes, said, "I believe in the global community. When we talk about our School mission—how we take talented young people and prepare them for lives of high purpose, developing the best in each for the best of all—I don't think you can separate that we are an institution with students from around the world." He added, "We take our House and Harkness system with us as we travel. All of the programs that we offer combine the best of what we are, and we aren't doing it to travel or for tourism's sake. We are doing it so we can apply our learning in real ways."

Hughes said, "These are authentic opportunities where our students can get out of their comfort zone and learn in ways that grow themselves as individuals." The following trips are completely new to the School community or returning after many years following their pilot.

## SPRING *Science, Sustainability & Spirituality in Bali, Indonesia*

*Faculty: Science Master Shinae Park and Performing Arts Master Matthew Campbell*

During the first two weeks of March, Lawrentians will have the opportunity to travel to Bali, Indonesia to immerse themselves in learning about sustainability and spirituality. For the first week, they will stay at the Green School, which is structured around the use of natural resources and engineering principles, to learn about sustainability and science. They will also get the opportunity to explore all parts of Bali through bike trips, visits to rice fields, and even snorkeling in mangrove habitat restoration. Furthermore, in the cultural center of Bali, Ubud, students will learn about Balinese Hinduism and Balinese music by attending performances, visiting temples, and engaging in meditation. As someone who is greatly interested in engineering

and Gamelan music, Campbell is eager to "see students respond to a school centered around engineering and sustainability principles and also [for them] to get the opportunity to explore a foreign spiritual and music world." He has been wanting to go to Bali for a long time, and he hopes students can expand their worldviews of sustainability, science, and spirituality and "venture beyond their own comfort zones and expectations when it comes to being around a new culture."

## *Nepal: Himalayan Explorations*

*Faculty: Religion and Philosophy Master Jason VonWachenfeldt, Director of Experiential Education John Hughes, and French Master Stella Leach*

In the first week of spring break, Lawrenceville students will travel to Nepal, embarking on a journey throughout the country that will include backpacking from Kathmandu to the Annapurna Basecamp. This trip is returning as a Harkness Travel trip after first running two years ago. Students will be immersed in a scenic adventure and discover why Nepal is called "Heaven on Earth." On this trip, students will be taught about religion, philosophy, cultural studies, and outdoor leadership when hiking, visiting cultural sites, and viewing the beautiful Himalayas.

Leach said, "This is my second time going to Nepal. I went in March two years ago, and it was my first time traveling to Asia. It was a great trip. I had a wonderful experience. It's hard to pick a favorite part, but if I had to choose, my favorite part would be that I was able to combine nature, natural aspects: backpacking and hiking in a mountainous regions and seeing small villages in Nepal with visiting Kathmandu and seeing a larger city. And it was really great to compare and contrast with our group of students."

## *Appalachia: Fair Trade Learning:*

*Faculty: Instruction and Engagement Librarian Autumn Sinai, Director of Library Services Paula Clancy P'11 '13, and English Master Christopher Hyson P'14 '16*

Students on this new trip will visit Williamson, West Virginia in the beginning of March. Williamson once flourished under the thriving coal mining industry, but in recent years, the town has suffered from the collapse of the coal mining industry and the opioid crisis. Students will work with Amizade, a global service orga-

nization to help the community rebuild. There will be several aspects to the service, as students will work with a local school, help farms prepare for the growing season, do health and wellness service regarding the opioid crisis, and help a town that once relied on the coal industry to find more sustainable options. The exact activities will be determined once students arrive in order to best meet the needs of the community. There will also be several excursions planned, although the main purpose of the trip is service.

The trip will be special in that the

aspects of a culturally rich city that was once the birthplace and center of three major world religions. Even on the first night they land, students will get a chance to visit a market and taste local cuisine. From there, students will look at both modern and ancient sites, take a trip to Tel Aviv, and participate in an ongoing archaeological dig.

"The idea is to experience...the various cultures and the various histories that are represented in the city," Figueroa-Ortiz said.

He added, "A city like Jerusalem highlights how religions are alive, they're vibrant, they exist and coexist with modernity all around the world...But to see that face-to-face is different from just reading about it in a book...I think it changes the understanding of what a city can be and should be."

Levy said, "I think that part of the excitement of Jerusalem is walking with your feet actually on stones that are thousands of years old [and] that millions of people have tread upon before you, all looking to have religious experience or educational experiences. At the same time, we have modern markets, where we have the sights and smells and tastes of a vibrant and fighting middle-eastern city...It's incredible," Levy said. "We're just really excited to share that with the students [who] are going to be joining us."



The Iceland: Myths, Mountains, Fire, and Ice trip will return in the summer after running for the first time three years ago. The program focuses on the exploration of Iceland's culture and geology.

Courtesy of The Lawrenceville School

service will be very "hands-on" and that "students will be able to have a direct impact...and really feel [the] impact of their visit there," Clancy said.

"I think it is a community service trip that will energize people in terms of thinking in new ways and get them excited about different types of ways to approach community service...and real, serious problems," she added.

## SUMMER *Jerusalem: Religion and History in the Holy City*

*Faculty: Religion Master Lauren Levy H'97 '01 P'01 '02 '09 and History Master David Figueroa-Ortiz P'18*

For 10 days in June, students will explore both the ancient and modern

aspects of a culturally rich city that was once the birthplace and center of three major world religions. Even on the first night they land, students will get a chance to visit a market and taste local cuisine. From there, students will look at both modern and ancient sites, take a trip to Tel Aviv, and participate in an ongoing archaeological dig.

Reflecting on the trip, English Master Sujin Seo said that she looks forward to the group's "immersing [themselves] in nature and facing the challenges out there but also enjoying the camaraderie and beauty of it."

## *Guatemala: Service and Exploration*

*Faculty: Director of Community Service Programs Rachel Cantlay P'07 '09 '11, Assistant Director of Community Service Programs Elizabeth Ferguson, and Science Master Gregory Hansen P'08 '11*

After conducting this trip close to seven years ago, students will once again have the opportunity to explore the culture of Antigua, Guatemala, while also engaging in service. Students will work with God's Child Project, a multi-service non-profit organization in Antigua, to build a house.

Prior to the program, students will spend time learning about the various factors that contribute to the coun-

try's poverty. As the program has an emphasis on service, students will also help with a soup kitchen and play with kids at a school involved with God's Child Project. While in Antigua, they will stay with local families and get to know the residents there. Furthermore, students will explore the surrounding environmental areas by hiking a volcano and visiting Lake Atitlan. They will also immerse themselves in the cultural side by visiting one of the largest Mayan markets, Chichicastenango, and staying overnight in Tikal, a historic Mayan ruin. Ferguson hopes that students can have "an opportunity to be present in a new situation that allows them to learn about another way of life and to learn about themselves."

## *Iceland: Myths, Mountains, Fire, and Ice*

*Faculty: English Master Rebecca Findlay, Director of Experiential Education John Hughes, and English Master Sujin Seo*

Early summer, over a period of 14 days, students will have an opportunity to visit Iceland, partaking in a multi-night hike through the famous Laugavegur hiking path, following the paths of Viking explorers in late 800 AD. Students will participate in adventures over glaciers, around volcanoes, through waterfalls, and across lava fields and will learn about Iceland's cultural and geological histories. They will also engage in glacier walks and day and overnight hikes.

A highlight of the trip will be vis-



# Harkness Travel: Troubles, Treks, and Triumphs

## 2 Weeks: Hiking in Austria and Germany

CONNOR KILGALLON '21

Having had little exposure to Germany both linguistically and culturally, I entered my II Form year at Lawrenceville not knowing what was coming. Initially, I paid little attention to the Harkness Travel programs, but while strolling through the F. M. Kirby Math and Science Center (KMSC), some of the pictures from the Harkness Travel presentations caught my eye. After reading the descriptions of all the trips, I was particularly intrigued by the hiking expedition to Austria and Germany, mostly due to my love of the outdoors. So, when I received the email of my acceptance, I was ecstatic.

The given itinerary mainly consisted of a curated hiking series and interactions with local students and urban culture. Nevertheless, the meticulously-planned schedule left room for trekking through the Alps and interesting daily excursions throughout Austria and Germany. The memorable experiences our small group shared allowed for many of us to develop lasting friendships. Although certain times proved challenging, the group all agreed that the memories we created heavily outshined any difficulties.

One memory that stands out to me was the second day of hiking. Extremely sore from the previous day, we trudged across snowy fields

all day, and, in retrospect, I can understand why this endless stretch was called the Stone Sea. Every time we would reach the top of a hill, thinking it was the last one, an even steeper hill stared us right back in the face. Finally, with my back aching and my legs giving out on me, I stumbled over what had been a daunting, large hill. Suddenly, I spotted the hut which was no more than a football field's length away. Never in my life was I so relieved to see such a random building on the side of a mountain. Walking onto the deck, I took in the stunning view: a combination of radiant sunshine, snow glistening mountains, and the cooling breeze that created the perfect atmosphere. This moment could not have been better.

Throughout the trip, we faced many challenges, some worse than others. The plan for the trip was to produce a documentary about how Austrians celebrate the summer solstice in partnership with a local Austrian boarding school. At Lawrenceville, we are lucky to have seamless technology and constant internet. However, we underestimated the technological troubles we would face as well as the unavoidable language barrier. It was frustrating to deal with connection speed issues, but eventually, our patience paid off when our videos fi-



Members of the Austria/Germany trip trekking through the Alps.

Connor Kilgallon '21/THE LAWRENCE

nally uploaded. Looking back now, I can sympathize with the Austrian kids and the problems they face daily. This experience provided perspective and gave me a greater appreciation for many of the things we, members of the Lawrenceville community, often take for granted.

Our challenges were especially prominent towards the beginning of the trip due to the lack of a group dynamic. This lack of unity was inevitable due to the fact that we were a newly-formed group. As such, this began to change as the days went by. Each new day, we were assigned

a different menial chore. At the start, we kept our tasks separate and disconnected, preventing us from working as efficiently as we could have—for example, we would oftentimes turn down the wrong street or forget to charge a camera. As time passed, we began to work more like a unit by helping each other out with various tasks and specializing in what we were best at, from laying out the day's plan to double-checking if we were boarding the right bus. This developed unity led to smoother days, even when we had packed schedules. Our ability to help out

when people needed it made such a hard time just a little bit easier.

Looking back nearly a year later at my younger self roaming around KMSC, I will always be grateful that I wasn't staring at my phone and instead decided to stop on a whim to read the random papers posted on the wall. Although hiking posed some hardships, the journey exposed me to an abundance of cultural experiences, interesting historical learning opportunities, world-class hiking, and incredible memories shaped by every single person in the group.

# Religious Life Leader Profiles: Rabbi Lauren Levy H'97 '01 P'01 '02 '09

DANIEL ZHU '23 &  
GRANT SHUEH '23

If you ever take a class in the Religion and Philosophy department or stop by Friday night Shabbat, you might have the opportunity to meet the only full-time rabbi at a non-denominational independent school in the world. A faculty member in the Religion and Philosophy department and the School Rabbi, Lauren Levy H'97 '01 P'01 '02 '09 has been teaching at Lawrenceville for over 30 years.

She grew up in a Jewish household surrounded by people of a wide variety of faiths, and as a young adult, she knew she wanted to study all religions. For example, her best friend, who lived across the street from her, was a Methodist Christian and she would often times ask if she could go to church with her.

However, she did not consider becoming a Rabbi until she was in high school. After a Jewish youth group meeting, a high school friend of hers mentioned that he was planning on becoming a Rabbi. Though at first she was shocked, it expanded her view on what she could do with her life. When she decided that she wanted to become a Rabbi herself, she was torn because she didn't necessarily want to lead a congregation and was much more interested in education, which was one of the factors that ultimately lead to her job at Lawrenceville.



Rabbi Levy reading the Old Testament with students.

Courtesy of The Lawrenceville School

After studying religion as both an undergraduate and graduate student, she began working at the Campus Ministries at Rutgers University, through which she discovered a part-time position at Lawrenceville. She immediately felt a connection to the students she taught who were willingly engaging in discussion; however, she realized that this was still not a full-commitment job until Martin Gruss '60, the benefactor of The Gruss Center for Art and Design, created a unique full-time position, a teaching Rabbi, through an endowment. "It's hard to hobnob with my fellow wizards because there's nobody else that has been en-

dowed teaching Rabbi," she said.

After settling into Lawrenceville, she eventually taught a course titled Great Jewish Books. Inspired by one of the books she read in the course, Sholem Aleichem's Tevye the Dairyman and The Railroad Stories—which features a Jewish man who rode the trains of Eastern Europe interviewing people—she embarked on a journey throughout Eastern Europe and Western Asia and visited various religious sites. Along the way, she also talked with many people in hopes of getting a better understanding of their religion and background. For example, one place on her itinerary that Levy and several of her students

went to was Nanjing and Kaifeng in China. There, Levy learned about the spiritual identity of Chinese citizens from the 8th to the 9th century C.E. who claim Jewish ancestry.

This international exploration of other religions deeply impacted how she views spirituality today—she feels that religion is too often viewed as divisive. "I think that religion can be helpful to people as long as they don't... create divides because of it but rather use it as a bridge to better understand people," Levy said. She also shared that when she was going through medical complications last year, many students and families of Lawrenceville reached

out to her sending their prayers. Before she left the School for a medical leave, she made sure to host one last Friday night Shabbat when they collectively sent out a prayer for her—a show of true family and spiritual unity. Her daughter, Rebekka Levy '01, pointed out that this sort of family was "needed in this time more than ever." Levy also noted the importance of spirituality in an increasingly secular time. She praised Lawrenceville's Explorations program for providing an outlet for this spirituality. However, she was quick to note that she would never expect a student to attend a religious offering if the student was not comfortable with it. She said, "[The Explorations Program doesn't] even have to be religious ... [the Religious Department] offers you the possibility to attend just what you feel comfortable with or check out a wide variety of things."

Her role in academia also makes her an integral part of the community. Occupying a position as both a Rabbi and a Religious Master allows her to intellectually challenge herself. On her interest in academia, Levy said, "I love being surrounded by really bright people and bright questions and concepts. I love being asked questions. I love to think. I love to encourage my students to think [and] at the same time experience, so it's not just promoting good thinking—it's encouraging the process long after they're going to interact with me."



# Sweeney Todd: Introducing the Fall Musical Principals

ISABELLE LEE '21  
STAFF WRITER

Periwig's annual production of the Fall Musical never fails to impress the School community. From the audience's perspective, the exquisiteness of the set, costumes, and professional-level acting may seem effortless, but the dedication and diligence required from these student performers can often be hectic and physically demanding. Despite these circumstances, one aspect seems to remain a positive force within this community of performers: family.

Unlike a typical high school production, this year's musical choice is challenging in many ways, whether it be musically or theatrically. As the lead performers of the show, V Formers Cate Levy, Nick Winkler, Lana Utley, Isabel Sweeney, Deven Kinney, Giao Vu Dinh, Robert Smith, and Casey Rogerson, this opportunity has served as a way for them to overcome these obstacles together, heightening their friendships. Winkler, who will be playing the lead role of Sweeney Todd, sees the show as a "junior opera because it's way harder than any of the [cast] expected it to be." Typically, musical numbers and dialogue scenes are separated in many musicals; however, in *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*, the leads have to accomplish both components simultaneously. In addition, the rhythm of the songs has also served as a difficult task to fully master; hence, many of these soloists spend an average of three to four hours daily practicing their music. Yet because of these challenges, supporting lead performer Kinney—who will be playing the Beadle—expressed



Sweeney Todd principals prepare to take the stage for the 2019 Fall Musical.

Ankita Suri '21/THE LAWRENCE

that his friendships with many of his peers have "definitely grown. [He] uses the musical as an opportunity to laugh and get closer to other people," which has been especially helpful during the fall term of his [V Form] year because, "although the musical adds stress, it also removes some stress by taking [his] mind off of serious things such as college applications and schoolwork."

While some have developed new relationships, others have leaned on past ones. Winkler is "grateful that [he's] such good friends with [Levy, his counterpart in the show,] because she has made the process so much easier." From one duo's dynamic relationship to another's, Utley and Rogerson's experience

is similar to that of Winkler and Levy's; the two performers will be playing the characters of Johanna and Anthony Hope, respectively. Since both of their roles are intertwined, they often practice songs together and prepare alongside one another before rehearsals. To Utley, her real-life relationship with Rogerson also plays an important factor in her performance because their "friendship transmits to easy chemistry on stage." They are often known as the "giggle twins."

Nevertheless, friendships weren't the only aspects of the musical that developed over time. Being a part of the show not only strengthened the performers' connections with one another, but also enriched their

understanding of acting. There are many ways in which the students can interpret and portray the story's complex characters, and over the course of the month, the lead performers were given the chance to further explore the intricate aspects of their roles.

A dark yet elaborately written musical, *Sweeney Todd* presents a multi-dimensional aspect of human nature. While on the surface, the musical appears simply as a form of black comedy; underneath the façade of the gore and supposedly evil characters is an unseen level of depth and compassion. For Levy, she enjoys "playing an evil role that's multi-faceted." Although "Mrs. Lovett may seem like a psychopath,

she is actually a really sad person [who] wants to be loved and taken care of." Levy believes that it's always important to "find some similarities [with her character] so that [she] can feel emotionally connected because [she's] really embodying that person on stage." In a similar limelight, Winkler sees Todd as a goal-oriented and driven man. After many trials, he realized that his portrayal of Todd becomes more authentic when he steps into the character's shoes: "There's a certain point when you go from just saying the lines... to a point where the actions you are taking and your facial expressions are driven by your view of the character."

The preparation process for these roles required extensive research prior to pre-season. Dinh, who will be playing the young boy Tobias Ragg, did a considerable amount of close reading of the text and watched many professional portrayals in order to "come up with [her] own understanding of him that felt unique yet true to the character at the same time." Considering that this is her first time performing a major role in a full-length production, Dinh is thankful to have her castmates and teachers guide her through the process. Expressing similar sentiments, Rogerson believes unequivocally that, "the cast and crew of this show have been the best part of the musical. They are not only some of the funniest and kindest people, but also the most ridiculously talented."

As these performers enter the last stretch of the process, not only will they cherish this experience as their final musical at Lawrenceville, but hopefully, the audience's support and adulation will make *Sweeney Todd* all the more memorable for them.

## Behind the Scenes of the Scene Shop: The Making of *Sweeney Todd*

CHRISTINE CHENG '21  
STAFF WRITER

The Periwig Club's technician crew works its magic behind the scenes, making sure the show runs smoothly from start to finish; without it, there would be no show at all. From adjusting the spotlights and painting scenery to welding and wood-working, the technicians do it all. Periwig's scene shop provides collaborative maker-spaces for students to create entire structures from scratch using materials such as wood or metal. Since pre-season, on-stage technicians have been working with Performing Arts Master Matthew Campbell to build the set from scratch and create personalized special effects for this year's Fall Musical, *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*.

The senior technician leaders manage everything. With years of experience under their belts, they know their way around all the corners of the Kirby Arts Center, from the basement to the catwalks. Their work doesn't end after the Fall Musical either; many of them are involved in Winterfest and the Spring Dance Concert as well. Through pre-show games of Kumcha and long hours of tech week, the senior technicians have created life-long bonds with one another by working together in the shop and on stage.

Production Stage Manager of *Sweeney Todd* Anushka Agarwala '20 has been a part of Periwig since she was a II Former. Working closely with the actors, faculty, and technician crew, Agarwala controls everything that happens on stage,

including light changes, sound cues, and scene changes. Although she was an actor before coming to Lawrenceville, she thought tech was interesting and decided to stage manage the II Form Shakespeare production of *Romeo and Juliet*. After her first experience stage managing, she decided that "there was no going back [because] acting was no longer something [she] liked as much as tech." Periwig has transformed her life entirely, and she now sees theater as a potential future career. Although she originally wanted to go into finance or law prior to coming to Lawrenceville, she changed her mind after going on a Harkness Travel trip, where a group of Lawrentians performed at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. After that, "it clicked that stage management was what I wanted to do with my life."

Similarly, Emily Matcham '20, Executive Technician and Head of Winterfest, came to Lawrenceville with some previous experience in theater. While she knew that she enjoyed building, it was really "the community that made [her] stay." While building sets, she enjoys "figuring things out like a puzzle and designing things," which makes the scene shop the perfect place for her to develop her skills. According to Matcham, building an entire set is much more complicated than it might seem, because "there's a lot of things you have to engineer, do the math, and design, so it's a lot of thinking...[and] it's definitely not as easy as people think it is."

Alex Stach '20, the Co-Head of the Technical Crew, has participated in all aspects of Periwig, from directing to



V Form technicians have been hard at work preparing for *Sweeney Todd*

Ankita Suri '21/THE LAWRENCE

working in the costume shop to building scenery. While working with those around her, she has realized that "there's never a time when you're working alone ... Working with others backstage is something I take for granted." Working backstage is a collaborative process, and it would be impossible to pull off an entire show alone. With so many elements involved in a performance, including lights, scenery, fly, props, and sound, Stach also loves tech because she "get[s] to oversee and be a part of something from start to finish." Over the years, she has learned countless skills, such as the proper way to measure or how to use a staple gun.

Before coming to Lawrenceville, Co-Head of the Technical Crew Oona Pierre

'20 had wanted to do tech crew since middle school. Through Periwig, she has "learned to work efficiently with other people [because] everyone has a part to play." Whether it be working by herself to complete an independent project or carrying a 20-foot wooden structure along with five other people, teamwork is a necessity to working backstage. She loves seeing "all [the] pieces come together at the end [because] the set is something [the entire crew] all took part in doing." Working with the technician crew has allowed her to meet new people while pushing the limits of her own comfort zone.

Head of Scene Shop Ashley Van Den Bol '20 enjoys the collaborative aspect of tech because there's a lot of freedom, espe-

cially for the V Formers. According to Van Den Bol, there's "a lot of working together, not only to complete [different tasks], but also just collaborating to figure things out." Over the years, she has grown closer with many of her fellow technicians, and she loves when the crew finishes building the set and gets to see all their hard work pay off during the show.

This year's fall musical, *Sweeney Todd* will be performed over Parents Weekend on Thursday, October 17 and Friday, October 18. Because "Sweeney Todd is very different from some of the more mainstream musicals," Agarwala thinks that it may be different from peoples' expectations, and she is "excited for people to come and watch it."



# The Case Against a Salary Cap in European Soccer

JACK HALLINAN '21

In recent months, soccer media has begun to question the ethics and fundamentals of the way in which the world's sport competes. Perhaps the most difficult idea for American sports fans to wrap their heads around is the way in which player transactions and contracts function in soccer. Without player trades, entry drafts, and salary caps, Europe's most successful and richest teams can throw around their affluence uncontested, attracting the best players by paying them the top-dollar. In an era full of Emirati billionaires and bored venture capitalists as owners, the name-brand clubs have gotten richer, and in turn, more successful. But teams such as Manchester City F.C. and Paris Saint-Germain F.C. (PSG), which are essentially owned by oil-rich Middle Eastern states, that consistently dominate

their opponents is not the only issue; teams also go defunct chasing the wealth and glory of winning, such as the now-expelled Bury F.C., a club which overspent its means to a fatal degree. While soccer is not a sport without its issues, a salary cap is neither a practical nor a particularly welcomed solution.

First, in American sports, salary caps work in tandem with a draft system which rewards teams for doing poorly for the sake of parity. This lulls franchises into a sense of security which can allow for bad-decision making year after year. For instance, since 2000, the National Football League's (NFL) Cleveland Browns have had

two winning seasons, meaning they consistently received valuable draft picks, and then proceeded to continuously fail in a system which is structured in a way that allows poor teams to become competent quickly. And in the National Basketball Association (NBA), dynasties still reign. Nine franchises have made the NBA finals since the 2010-11 season, while in the English Premier League, seven clubs have earned a spot in the top two in the same time period—a minute difference. In short, the checks and balances of American sports implicitly encourage mediocrity with drafts, a salary cap, and a lack of relegation in the NBA, even promoting purposeful failure as highlighted with the Philadelphia 76ers' infamous "Trust the Process" tanking scheme. Such rules do not fully prevent a select tier of franchises from earning regular playoff and even finals appearances.

With the higher stakes of relegation and stiff competition from the wealthy big boys, soccer necessitates the astute running of clubs. While fans like to speak of Leicester City F.C.'s title-winning season as a ridiculous Cinderella story, its success was not exactly accidental.

Its star striker that season, Jaime Vardy, who's gone on to score 102 goals for

the club, was signed for just \$1.2 million. Leicester's other key contributors in that title campaign, N'Golo Kanté and Riyad Mahrez, cost \$9.8 million and just \$570,000, respectively, while the supposed 'top teams' spent tens of millions on individual players. Kanté and Mahrez have gone on to leave Leicester for \$39.5 million and \$74 million in separate summers, proving their long term productivity. Leicester achieved success via well-scouted acquisitions and clever coaching, not waiting for programmed parity to do the work for them. Leicester originally aimed to avoid relegation and had to outsmart its fellow low-lying clubs to achieve that, winning a league title as a result. Soccer's structure allows the media and

fans to exalt intelligent clubs, sporting directors, and coaches, as opposed to questioning whether a team came upon success luckily, or genuinely deserved their championship rings. Money does not guarantee success either, as Manchester United F.C., Forbes' most valuable English team, has failed to win a Premier League title since 2012-13 on account of poor player signings and lackluster coaching.

In conclusion, while financial irresponsibility, such as in Bury's case, should certainly not be condoned, a salary cap or other parity-oriented restrictions would not be soccer's savior. We should not tamper with soccer's culture of demanding off-field competency to fuel on-field success simply in hopes that Manchester City, PSG, and F.C. Barcelona share their titles around. And, given enough time, the tables turn in soccer. After all, Borussia Dortmund was a middling Bundesliga club throughout the 1970s and 1980s, only firmly establishing itself as routine title candidates in the 1990s and Manchester United spent that same time period watching Liverpool F.C. win the majority of its 18 domestic titles. Soccer clubs change, and as spectators, we can only be patient and wait for our clubs' turn.



Jasper Zhu '21 & Jeffrey Tao '20 /THE LAWRENCE

## Recruitable Athlete Profile: Andrew Tokarski - Crew

ETHAN MARKEL '21

Rowing is a unique sport: it demands incomprehensible levels of physical strength, mental strength, and endurance. Rowers go through all of this while maintaining impeccable technique and remaining fully in-synch with the rest of their boat. Such a sport requires very special people who possess these qualities as well as the unstoppable drive to pursue excellence and improvement. Vice President of Academics and Boys Varsity Squash Captain Andrew Tokarski '20 is the embodiment of the qualities demanded of a rower and, over the past several months, has been making serious progress that has caught the eye of several top rowing schools in the nation.

Starting his rowing career as a rower for the Lawrenceville Freshman Boys Boat, Tokarski suffered a major setback that summer as he became critically ill, and he was confined to his bed for much of that summer. Having recovered and returned to campus that fall, Tokarski was unsure if he was going to even row again, and he did not attend the spring training trip in Augusta, Georgia, in the spring of 2018. However, he made the team again and rowed the entire season in the Third Varsity Eight under Boys Varsity Crew Coach



Divya Sammeta '20 /THE LAWRENCE

Noelle Niu. Tokarski made a major breakthrough in his 2,000 meter with a benchmark time of 6:43 on the ergometer gave him a huge boost of confidence. Boys Varsity Crew Coach Benjamin Wright P'10 '21 put Tokarski in the Second Varsity Eight for the final two weeks of the season, including the Stotesbury Cup Regatta, which earned Tokarski a major L for the 2018 season.

In the last year and a half, To-

karski has made even more progress, improving his endurance and stamina. He has spent countless hours in the gym and on the ergometer, and hundreds of thousands of meters have been put down on the ergometer in his own time between the start of his sophomore season and his senior fall. "I just love being on the erg next to the guys... with the music blasting, the camaraderie that you build through training is unbelievable,"

said Tokarski. Furthermore, Tokarski's famous diet of peanut butter, he consumes one jar per week, supplements his intense training, and keeps his results on an upward trajectory.

Tokarski has been in contact with the coaching staff at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Cornell University, and Columbia University, and each school has invited him to official recruiting visits to its campus and

rowing programs, giving him an inside look at elite collegiate rowing.

As good as his prospects look, making the recruiting list and then the top lineups for the first and second varsity eights at these colleges is extremely difficult: Cornell and Columbia along with many other top rowing schools in the Northeast and California recruit internationally which makes the field extremely competitive. Unfortunately, Tokarski's current height of about 6'1" is does not stand out compared to his competition, as collegiate rowers are usually at least 6'4" to 6'6". "Coaches care not only about your ergometer score, but also your potential to keep developing, and if you have the height, they prefer that," said Tokarski.

In addition to his rowing aspirations, Tokarski's involvement on campus in other areas is a testament to his qualities developed through rowing. As the Vice President of Academics and a Hutchins Scholar, Tokarski has a lot on his plate to balance. Even if he does not officially get recruited, Tokarski has the potential to be a strong walk-on candidate at many of the top colleges he is applying to. If the opportunity presents itself, he will certainly continue to row in college.



# Boys Waterpolo Defeats Malvern Prep in Nail-Biter

GRAYSON MILLER '21

This past Tuesday, the Boys Varsity Water Polo team defeated Malvern Preparatory School with 49 seconds left in a nail-biting game, ending in a final score of 14-13. The team now has a season record of 8-1, excluding tournament play.

In the first quarter, both teams played very strong defense. Malvern went up 2-0 after two minutes, scoring one of its two goals in a man-up situation. Lawrenceville, however, came back within a minute, with Captain Marvin Dominguez '20 scoring in the set position—the position closest to the net and the most aggressive in water polo—off an assist by Tim Barry '21. Both Dominguez and Barry contributed significantly to the Lawrenceville offense, each scoring four goals in the game. In the ensuing Malvern position, Aidan Oster '20 stole the ball, passing to Barry for a fast-break goal. Oster and Barry, who have



Courtesy of The Lawrenceville School

dominated fast breaks all season, used their speed and connection to score another goal in the quarter, putting Lawrenceville up 3-2. Malvern scored three more times in the quarter, two of which were off foul shots. When fouled outside of five meters from the goal, players are allowed to take an undefended shot, allowing Malvern to finish the quarter up, 5-3.

Although Lawrenceville got off

to a slow start in the second quarter with inconsistent shooting, Big Red was able to regain its footing after a Malvern goal two minutes into the quarter. After his shot that hit the post, Grayson Miller '21 was able to get his own rebound and score a goal, starting Lawrenceville's comeback, which was quickly followed by a steal and fast-break goal by Oster, putting Lawrenceville only one goal behind

Malvern. Malvern scored a goal off a five-meter penalty, which is given for more serious fouls and lets a player take a one on one shot on the goalie from five meters away. Lawrenceville, determined to rebound and tie the game back up, finished the half with two goals from Barry, both of which were assisted by Oster, tying the game up at 7-7 at half time.

In the third quarter, the two teams exchanged the lead several times. When Dominguez drew a five-meter penalty from the set position, Oster capitalized and scored a goal, tying the game 9-9 with two minutes left in the quarter. On the next possession, Malvern drew an exclusion on goalie Varun Kumar '21, who led Lawrenceville's defense from the net, blocking 61 percent of shots taken on him. During Kumar's exclusion, or a 30-second penalty given to players that commit an 'exclusion foul,' a more serious foul than an 'ordinary foul,' Malvern was able to score on Lawrenceville's de-

fenseless net, ending the quarter with a one-goal advantage.

Dominguez came up big for the team in the fourth quarter, scoring two goals at the beginning of the frame which turned the tides in Lawrenceville's favor. His remarkable effort put Big Red up by one with five minutes left in the quarter. Lawrenceville and Malvern went back and forth, both scoring two goals to level the game 13-13 with only minutes left. One of Lawrenceville's goals came from Colin Miles '21 on a foul outside of five meters while the 30-second shot clock was running out of time. With merely 49 seconds left in the game, Dominguez once again scored from set off an assist by Barry, but the game was not over yet. With 30 seconds left in playing time, Oster was excluded, giving Malvern a man-up situation to try and tie the game back up, but Kumar blocked their skip shot from the right wing, securing Lawrenceville's hard fought win.

# Players to Target for Week 6 of Fantasy Football

SATVIK DASARIRAJU '23

The 2019-2020 Fantasy Football season has entered a critical stage as the 13-week fantasy regular season is near its halfway point. There have been numerous surprises this year with a handful of players proving to be major disappointments while sleepers have been important waiver wire pickups. At this point in the season, fantasy managers have to deal with numerous issues, ranging from player injuries to bye weeks.

Week 5 of the NFL season stood out as seven players scored over 35 points in Point Per Reception (PPR) leagues, including Aaron Jones and Will Fuller, who many fantasy managers left on the bench. It's never easy to make the right decisions in such an unpredictable sport but by looking at matchups and previous production, it is clear that some players are advantageous to start. The following are players to target for this week, including some who are not typically at the top of fantasy rankings.

## Quarterbacks

**Deshaun Watson (vs. Kansas City Chiefs)**

In a game that's bound to be an exciting shootout, Quarterback Deshaun Watson should have a great day against the Chiefs' porous secondary. The Chiefs have conceded three passing touchdowns on two games this season, despite not going up against many elite quarterbacks. Watson is coming off a 426-yard, five-



touchdown performance in which he had a perfect 158.3 passer rating against the Atlanta Falcons. In addition, Watson has dominated the Chiefs' defense before, as he accumulated almost 300 total yards along with five touchdowns.

**Matt Ryan (vs. Arizona Cardinals)**

Despite the Falcons' 1-4 record, Quarterback Matt Ryan is actually second, only behind Patrick Mahomes, in both passing yards and touchdowns so far this season. Despite this apparent success, he has struggled with turnovers. He has thrown seven interceptions in five weeks, one short of the highest in the league, to go with a fumble. He's consistently putting up over 20 fantasy point, and would have more if not for the turnovers. Things are looking up for Ryan's fantasy owners though as he will have high



Courtesy of NFL.com

passing volume due to the Falcons' abysmal defense and also matches up well against the Cardinals defense. The Cardinals don't have an interception this season, and they're missing their top Cornerback Patrick Peterson. That presents a huge opportunity for Ryan, given the passing weapons at his disposal: Julio Jones, Calvin Ridley, and Mohamed Sanu. Ryan, "Matty Ice," is due for a big performance, and he will deliver in Arizona this Sunday.

## Running Backs

**Matt Breida (vs. Los Angeles Rams)**

Although the 49ers have a committee running back situation, Matt Breida only needed 11 carries and three receptions to output 119 total yards and two touchdowns last week. He's also had at least 88 total yards in the past three weeks. When paired with the Rams' defense that's

allowed the eighth-most points to rushers, Breida and his outstanding efficiency offer a valuable option to fantasy managers, especially those without a top-tier back like Christian McCaffrey, who's putting up at least 30 points a week.

**Sony Michel and James White (vs. New York Giants)**

Start Michel in standard leagues, and James White is in PPR leagues. Michel will likely see a solid number of carries while White should receive many short receptions in check-down situations, assuming that the New England Patriots will lead comfortably into the second half as they have a dominant 5-0 record and are much more talented than the 2-3 Giants. If this is the case, expect both backs to see a lot of volume as the Patriots run the clock out.

## Wide Receivers







**DeAndre Hopkins (vs. Kansas City Chiefs)**

DeAndre Hopkins has not met expectations thus far. However, the best receiver in football is primed to bounce back this week against the Chiefs. The Chiefs were unable to guard DJ. Chark Jr. earlier this year, indicating they may struggle once again against a far more talented player. In a game that's bound to be full of aerial fireworks between two potential Most Valuable Player (MVP) candidates in Deshaun Watson and Patrick Mahomes, lookout for Hopkins to have a big day with a catch or two in the endzone.

**Terry McLaurin (vs. Miami Dolphins)**

So far this season, the Miami Dolphins have been a dream matchup for fantasy owners and expect this trend to continue with Terry McLaurin, a promising rookie for the Washington Redskins. Eight different receivers have gone over 50 yards against the Dolphins, an astounding number considering they have already had their bye. Last week was the only week so far that McLaurin didn't find the end zone but that was against the league-leading Patriots defense. The Patriots' secondary was able to break up four of seven targets, but the tanking Dolphins won't be able to do the same. Expect at least 75 yards and a touchdown or two from him this week, as the reception volume he receives in addition to a great matchup make him a top under-the-radar player for Week 6.

# Presidents' Picks

	Dare Rolfe Kennedy	William Upchurch Hamill	Bernice Hightower Stephens	Danica Bajaj Stanley	Jacob Calderon Dickinson	Tay Gachagua School
						
<i>Favorite House Tradition</i>	<i>Grilled Cheese Wednesdays</i>	<i>getting last in the trike race</i>	<i>winning chivers</i>	<i>dresdnrs</i>	<i>The Dick Run</i>	<i>Whooping dudes at pool (@Teddy)</i>
<i>What makes you a great president</i>	<i>visitation tuesday</i>	<i>Thursday Burgers</i>	<i>I'm their mom</i>	<i>can't tell you cuz it's a ~surprise~</i>	<i>My unprecedented house spirit.</i>	<i>Cos my name is Tayari Lakwanzaa Oriade Mbugua Gachagua</i>
<i>Describe your house in two words</i>	<i>not cleve</i>	<i>Actual Spikeball @ danica</i>	<i>jock house</i>	<i>spike. ball.</i>	<i>"Academic Bodies"- House academic rep Alex Yoon</i>	<i>Test &amp; Osterone</i>